



1300 CHAPTER OVERVIEW

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A. OVERVIEW OF MEMBER DIRECTED OPTIONS

Member-directed options allow members to have more control over how certain services are provided, including services such as attendant care, personal care, homemaker and habilitation. The options are not a service, but rather define the way in which services are delivered. Member-directed options are available to Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) members who live in their own home. The options are not available to members who live in an alternative residential setting or nursing facility.

This Chapter describes the standards and requirements for the Agency With Choice (AWC) and Self-Directed Attendant Care (SDAC) options under the ALTCS Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) program. In accordance with State and Federal regulations, AWC and SDAC must be medically necessary and cost effective. AWC is available to all ALTCS enrolled members and SDAC is available to members who are elderly and/or have physical disabilities.

Member independence and personal choice are the primary objective of the AWC and SDAC member-directed options. Members choosing to participate in this service must be interested in actively managing their own health care and be willing to take responsibility for obtaining and maintaining AWC or SDAC services.

Member-directed options represent a philosophical approach to service delivery that maximizes a member's ability to:

1. Identify his/her own needs
2. Determine how and by whom his/her needs are met
 - a. Choose which tasks to receive from his/her Direct Care Worker (DCW) or Attendant Care Worker (ACW) within the scope of the service plan
 - b. Select the days and times for service delivery
 - c. Recruit, hire (select), manage, supervise and terminate (dismiss) the DCW and ACW of his or her choice, including most family members. Parents of minor children are prohibited from serving as a DCW or ACW. For SDAC only, spouses are prohibited from serving as an ACW.



3. Define what constitutes quality of care.

B. CHAPTER DEFINITIONS

The following words and phrases contained in Chapter 1300 of the AHCCCS Medical Policy Manual have the following meaning:

Agency With Choice (AWC) – An option offered to ALTCS members who reside in their own home. A member or the member's Individual Representative (IR) may choose to participate in the Agency with Choice option. Under the Agency with Choice option, the provider agency and the member/IR enter into a co-employment agreement. The provider agency serves as the legal employer of the Direct Care Worker (DCW) and the member/IR serves as the day-to-day managing employer of the DCW.

Self-Directed Attendant Care (SDAC) Service Option – A service option offered to ALTCS Elderly and Physically Disabled (E/PD) members who reside in their own home. Within this option, members utilize an Attendant Care Worker (ACW) to perform tasks such as homemaking, personal care, and general supervision. As described in this chapter, the ACW may also provide limited skilled services in specific circumstances. This service differs from traditional attendant care in that the ACW who provides these services is an employee, not of an agency, but of the member who hires, trains and supervises the caregiver. The member is supported by a Fiscal Employer Agent as outlined in Policy 1324 of this Chapter.

Skilled Services – Under R9-28-508, the following list of skilled services are the only skilled services that may be provided by an ACW and only within the SDAC member-directed option:

1. Bowel care, including suppositories, enemas, manual evacuation and digital stimulation
2. Bladder catheterizations (non-indwelling) that do not require a sterile procedure
3. Wound care (non-sterile)
4. Glucose monitoring
5. Glucagon as directed by the health care provider
6. Insulin by subcutaneous injection only if the member is not able to self-inject
7. Permanent gastrostomy tube feeding and



8. Additional services requested in writing with the approval of the Director and the Arizona State Board of Nursing.

C. OTHER LINKS AND RESOURCES

1. AHCCCS Website (www.azahcccs.gov.)
2. Member SDAC Manual
3. Member AWC Manual (pending)
4. Direct Care Worker Training and Testing
(www.azahcccs.gov/commercial/DCW/default.aspx)

D. REFERENCES

1. Arizona Long Term Care Contracts for Elderly and Physically Disabled (EPD)
2. Arizona Long Term Care Contract for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
3. Home and Community-based Attendant Services and Supports State Plan Option (Community First Choice)- Section 1915(k) of the Social Security Act
4. Arizona Administrative Code, R9-28-508
5. Arizona Administrative Code, R9-28-509